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NEWS WORTH SHARING.

No, no, no, Ford won't go

Toronto mayor blows off advice of those closest to him to get help PAGE 4

Lions' game plan? Shut down Sheets

Defensive tackle Taylor will play crucial role PAGE 36

'I'M NOT A VERY JEANS-Y PERSON'

SHANNON MANAGES TO COOLLY SIDESTEP MORALE-BOOSTING OFFICE-ATTIRE THEME DAY PAGE 12

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Grizzly bear kills exceed targets: Study

10-year analysis. Province disputes findings, saying hunt is sustainable

Grizzly bears were over-hunted by the hundreds from 2001-2011 in B.C., according to a new study, but the provincial government says that's not the case.

A team of researchers is asking the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations to pull back on the number of trophy-hunting licences it hands out to curb the number of bear killings.

"Based on historical records, we detected over-mortality cases that ranged from one to 24 grizzlies higher — meaning two to 171 per cent higher — than government limits," said Simon Fraser University biologist Kyle Artelle, the study's lead author.

From 2001 to 2011, the legally sanctioned number of bears to hunt was roughly 2,800, 900 of which could be female, according to the study.

But Artelle and his fellow scientists say 3,500 bears were killed, including more than 1,200 females.

The findings were published in the Public Library of Science.

Artelle says politics and faulty science could be factors in the government issuing too many licences.

"Part of the reason is that current hunt management does not adequately account for how uncertain their data are," he said.

But the provincial government says its practices are based on a deep pool of scientific data.

"The grizzly bear harvest is based on the best available science and incorporates multiple sources of information," the ministry wrote in a statement to Metro.

The ministry says all of its data currently show robust grizzly bear populations.

Artelle says if nothing changes, he doesn't know what the outcome will be.

"What we have found is that populations could be currently managing to decline without anyone even knowing," he said. "To carry on with business as usual … is a lot like playing a game of Russian roulette."

The government estimates roughly 300 grizzlies are harvested every year, of at least 15,000 currently living in B.C.

SAM SMITH/FOR METRO

A mother grizzly bear walks about a B.C. beach with her cub. A new study says grizzlies are being over-hunted in the province and recommends that fewer trophy-hunting licences be distributed.

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No done deal

Northern Gateway still on the ropes

Despite the premiers' agreement on Tuesday that Enbridge should allot a bigger share of the profit pie to B.C. if it wants the province's blessing, First Nations are as adamant as ever that the Northern Gateway project will never win their assent.

First Nations consent also happens to be one of Premier Christy Clark's five criteria for support.

"The vast majority, 90-some-odd per cent of First Nations are opposed, and 80 per cent of British Columbians are opposed," said Art Sterritt, executive director of Coastal First Nations, an alliance representing 20,000 aboriginal people on B.C.'s north and central coast.

"If you had a spill on the route that's proposed ... if it was half the size of the Exxon Valdez, it would basically wipe out our culture, our economy — you change who we are forever." KATE WEBB/METRO

Sexual violence

RCMP get 57 tips on UBC assaults

The RCMP have been flooded with tips about a sex-assault suspect since releasing a sketch of the man on Tuesday.

"We continue to work diligently and thoroughly with all the new information and are hopeful that we will soon identify the suspect," said Sgt. Peter Thiessen.

UBC has been the site of six sexual assaults in the past six months.

The man is described as Caucasian with slightly dark or olive skin, possibly tanned. He seems to be in his mid-to-late 20s or 30s with a thin build, a longer round chin, straight nose and broad forehead with short dark hair. SAM SMITH/FOR METRO

Natural Gas Development Minister Rich Coleman, left, Premier Christy Clark, right, and other speakers smile for the cameras at a press conference in Vancouver on Wednesday. KATE WEBB/METRO

Green MLA mocks natural-gas claims

'Utter nonsense.'
Assertion that gas will last 150 years based on faulty calculations: MLA

KATE WEBB
kate.webb@metronews.ca

Premier Christy Clark trumpeted a National Energy Board (NEB) report Wednesday that found B.C.'s natural-gas reserves are more than twice as large as previously thought — but a prominent environmentalist accused the NEB of spreading misleading calculations.

Researchers estimated for the first time that the Montney Formation in northeastern B.C. contains 12.7 trillion cubic metres of marketable natural gas that could be accessed through hydraulic fracturing.

The B.C. Ministry of Natural Gas Development said the findings bring B.C.'s total potential reserves to 82 trillion cubic metres, which investors will find "very appealing."

"The report forecasts 150 years of natural-gas reserves, all of (which) we are going to put to work for the people of British Columbia," the premier said at a press conference.

Clark said the 150-year projection came from the National Energy Board, but the NEB calculated it based on domestic rather than global-consumption trends.

Moving ahead

There are more than 10 liquefied-natural-gas plants currently proposed in B.C., three of which already have approved export licences from the NEB.

A 2012 report by energy giant BP stated that Canada's entire supply of proven natural-gas reserves would run out in 12.7 years at current global-consumption rates.

The NEB's logic was that in 2012 Canada's total demand for natural gas was 88 billion cubic metres, and so the estimated 12.7 trillion cubic metres of natural gas in the Montney Formation would therefore be equivalent to 145 years of Canada's 2012 consumption.

But Oak Bay-Gordon Head MLA Andrew Weaver, who is the only elected member of the B.C. Green Party, called the 150-year projection "utter nonsense."

"An LNG industry, by definition, is for export, so they need to actually look at global reserves divided by global production, not just B.C. reserves divided by Canadian production," he said.

A Ministry of Natural Gas Development spokeswoman said in an email that "B.C. is very confident that the natural-gas supply in the province can support long-term operations for 150 years or more."

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The owner of Vancouver's Hollywood Theatre, currently operating as a church, has applied to convert it into a fitness centre. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

Vancouver pauses development at Hollywood Theatre

Historic icon.
Residents have rallied to preserve the inside and outside of the heritage building

The plot has thickened in the west-side story about a community struggling to save an old, single-screen cinema from conversion into a fitness centre.

Ever since owner Bonnis Properties applied in September for a development permit to turn Kitsilano's 650-seat Hollywood Theatre into a two-storey gym, residents have rallied to preserve the inside and outside of the heritage building that currently operates as a church and ad hoc performance space.

On Wednesday, council granted them 75 days to devise a plan to convince the owners to let them stay.

But council stopped short of requiring a heritage assessment for the theatre or calling for a 90-day development freeze.

It's important to balance heritage needs and the owner's business interests, Coun. Geoff Meggs said.

Besides, it's not clear what tools the city can use — if any — to require an owner to maintain a building's heritage. City staff will present a report on how the city can protect cultural and heritage assets in a matter of weeks.

Councillors hope to use this report to see if they can change the Hollywood's fate.

"I know we need spaces like this," Coun. Heather Deal said, but waiting is the "best opportunity for success."

The owner purchased the 78-year-old building two years ago from the family that originally built it. The company spent that time working with the heritage department on development options before finally proposing a plan that willingly saves the building's façade and structure.

While that doesn't protect the cultural space or the interior, it's better than demolition, Coun. Heather Deal said.

Community members aren't losing heart that they can change the outcome before the curtains close permanently, as there is a clear demand for the space.

The Church at the Hollywood received 350 requests to use the space this year, representative Lani Johnson said.

It even hosted the premier of a documentary about the city's vanishing heritage venues. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

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Vancouver wins award! ... for most congested city

Transportation. City eclipses L.A. for first time: Traffic info service

Vancouver has officially been ranked as the "most congested city" in North America by TomTom, a real-time traffic information service.

The annual TomTom Traffic Index compared travel times during non-congested hours versus travel times during peak hours in 2012.

According to the GPS service provider, the average travel time in Vancouver was 36 per cent longer than when traffic was flowing freely, eclipsing Los Angeles — who sits at 35 per cent — for the first time.

But the director of SFU's City Program, Gordon Price, says its report is misleading.

"There's a big difference between being struck in traffic and moving slowly," he said. "I'm not denying people perceive the traffic as being congested, but it's not the same as being stuck, like in L.A."

Price wouldn't qualify Vancouver as congested as much as he would call it slower, but to him that's the sign of a well-designed city. He also finds it hard to believe Vancouver is worse than Seattle, Los Angeles or New York.

"It just comes with the territory," he said. "You don't actually end up with a city that works very well without some crowding."

TomTom's annual report says the delay for an average driver in Vancouver with a 30-minute commute totalled 93 hours, or 11.6 working days in 2012. Mondays are reported as the least congested days, with Tuesday and Thursday evenings as the worst. **SAM SMITH/FOR METRO**

Traffic on West Georgia Street heading into Stanley Park. THE CANADIAN PRESS

S.E. Vancouver. Seniors fed up with wait for centre

To get an inexpensive meal at a community centre, Southeast Vancouver seniors have to travel to Burnaby because they don't have a centre of their own.

Despite a decade of efforts and promises to build the seniors a space in the aging neighbourhood, politicians from different levels of government are still battling over who will foot the bill.

Vancouver city council voted Wednesday to ask the province and the federal government to fork over $2.5 million each to match the city's funding for a 10,000 square-foot centre at the Killarney community centre.

There aren't any community amenity contributions left to use in the area (there's $8 million in an unallocated fund, but it must stay in specific areas), so the city is lobbying the higher level of governments to pay their share.

Seniors applauded the decision to pressure the other governments, but ultimately they don't care how their centre is funded — just that it's finally built.

"The idea of postponing much longer is unconscionable," said Lorna Gibbs of the Southeast Vancouver Seniors Arts and Cultural Centre Society.

Quoted

"The idea of postponing much longer is unconscionable."

Lorna Gibbs of the Southeast Vancouver Seniors Arts and Cultural Centre Society on finally getting the centre built

"We have a growing senior population, and we're squeezing every which way to try to find programming," she said, her sentiments echoed by longtime community representatives from the South Vancouver Neighbourhood House.

The neighbourhood is home to 27,000 seniors, a number that's expected to grow as the baby boomers enter retirement.

Seniors implored the city not to build a smaller centre if it can only secure a portion of the funding. At issue is a dedicated elevator (they don't want to share the single elevator that only fits two strollers and is jammed as it stands) and a new kitchen to prepare community meals. **EMILY JACKSON/METRO**

Grouse Mountain. Stranger stabs hiking man

A man was stabbed by a stranger while hiking down a trail on Grouse Mountain Tuesday afternoon, according to police.

The victim, 59, was halfway down a B.C. Mountaineering Club trail, which runs parallel to the Grouse Grind, around 4 p.m. Tuesday when he came upon another hiker going up, said Cpl. Richard De Jong.

"He pulled aside to let the hiker go up and then before you know it, he was getting stabbed," De Jong said.

The victim described the assailant as a Caucasian male in his late teens with a slim build and dark short hair.

RCMP shut down the Grouse Grind and the B.C. Mountaineering Club trail system for part of the day and searched the area with police dogs for the suspect and evidence.

The victim was taken to Lions Gate Hospital and was released Wednesday morning and is expected to make a full recovery.

Police are asking the public to come forward with any information they may have. **SAM SMITH/FOR METRO**

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Ford saga: The faces of protest

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1 And baby came, too

Meredith Davis holds her three-month-old daughter, Emma — and a sign — at a rally at Toronto City Hall. Protesters called for Mayor Rob Ford to step down to take care of his personal life.

2 A sign of disgust

Sarah Doucet joins protesters outside Toronto City Hall.

3 No hiding his feelings

A paper-bag-clad protester holds a smiling Rob Ford head at city hall.

PHOTOS BY RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Friends and foes tell Ford: Grab our lifeline

No, No, No! Toronto mayor refuses to step aside for a bit and get some help after his crack bombshell

Crack-smoking Toronto Mayor Rob Ford has united the political spectrum.

Both conservative and left-leaning politicians are telling him to step aside in the wake of his bombshell admission he has smoked crack cocaine during his time in office.

When the Toronto Star and the U.S. website Gawker first reported in May that a video showed the mayor smoking crack, Ford denied it and his closest allies stood by him.

But now that he has admitted to the drug use and police have said they have the video, politicians of all stripes are urging him to get help.

Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly said Wednesday: "I'm inviting him today ... to take a pause with all its advantages, because it's the one option that looks after all of the issues on the table."

Ontario Opposition Leader Tim Hudak said that if Ford called him for advice he would tell him to put his family first and get healthy.

Fervent city hall ally Coun. Frances Nunziata said she and fellow supporters are urging him to take a leave of absence. "I was hoping he would listen to us, as strong supporters."

Right-leaning Coun. Giorgio Mammoliti stressed there is no need for panic.

"We have a very capable deputy mayor and dedicated councillors to carry forward with the fiscally responsible agenda we were elected to implement," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Not a care in the world? Toronto Mayor Rob Ford shows staffers' children around city hall on Wednesday, Take Your Kids To Work Day. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Making a hash (tag) of it!

The Twittersphere is buzzing — thousands have issued scolding tweets about the behaviour of Rob Ford.

- **Uh-oh.** Rob Ford, a professor at the University of Manchester in Britain has received a barrage of fiery tweets — and he's not too happy.
- **Not amused.** "It seems the other Rob Ford is in trouble again," the U.K.'s Ford tweeted. "Torontonians, I am not him. I am much more boring."
- **Last straw.** He also tweeted: "Not fat, not Canadian, not a mayor of anything."

Senate suspensions: Tories find the devil's in the details

Questions, questions ... The Conservative government is scrambling to figure out what the suspensions of three of its own senators actually mean.

Tuesday's suspensions of Mike Duffy, Pamela Wallin and Patrick Brazeau for allegedly fraudulent expense claims are without precedent and the government still hasn't figured out all the answers. Are the three entirely off the public payroll, as Prime Minister Stephen Harper claims?

Is Duffy eligible for a disability allowance?

Will the trio's time in political purgatory — as much as two years — count toward the six years of service needed to be eligible for a generous parliamentary pension?

Scandal on his doorstep: Prime Minister Stephen Harper answers questions in the House of Commons on Wednesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Good questions — and it's up to the Senate to answer them, said Treasury Board President Tony Clement.

"You're asking very legitimate questions and there should be answers," he said.

Claude Carignan, government leader in the Senate, called the questions "technicalities" that will be sorted out.

Wallin's lawyer, Terrence O'Sullivan, said she will consider legal action if the Senate tries to tamper with her pension eligibility.

NDP Leader Tom Mulcair — a champion of abolishing the Senate entirely — said he "couldn't care less" about the pension and disability allowance questions.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Global syndicates' focus on the environment

Elephants and rhinos targets of 'crime wave,' officials say

The illegal cutting of timber and the poaching of elephants and rhinos are part of a "rapidly escalating environmental crime wave," the world was warned Wednesday.

International governments must combat this crime wave by increasing co-operation, police and environmental officials said in Nairobi, Kenya.

Interpol and the United Nations Environmental Program are working together to stop environmental crimes that cost tens of billions of dollars a year, said Achim Steiner, the program's executive director.

Some 500 law enforcement and environmental experts from around the world are meeting in Nairobi this week to try to stem the problem.

"This is a global phenomenon. This is a global market place. These are global syndicates, criminals that are engaging in this trade," said Steiner.

The demand for elephant ivory by China's rising middle class is fuelling the deaths of thousands of elephants across Africa, say experts. An estimated 17,000 elephants were illegally killed in Africa in 2011. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this photo from 2002, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat pauses during Friday prayers in his headquarters in the West Bank city of Ramallah. Al-Jazeera is reporting that Swiss scientists have found evidence that Arafat died of poisoning, publishing a copy of what it said was the scientists' report on its website on Wednesday. LEFTERIS PITARAKIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Arafat may have been poisoned

Report. Swiss scientists say the Palestinian leader's death could be due to a rare, deadly radioactive isotope

Swiss scientists have found evidence suggesting Yasser Arafat may have been poisoned, TV station Al-Jazeera reported Wednesday, prompting new allegations by his widow that the Palestinian leader was the victim of a "shocking, shocking" crime.

Palestinian officials have long accused Israel of poisoning Arafat, a claim Israel has denied. Arafat died under mysterious circumstances at a French military hospital in 2004, a month after falling ill at his West Bank compound.

The findings reported Wednesday appear to be the most significant so far in an investigation into Arafat's death initiated by his widow, Suha, and Al-Jazeera.

Last year, Switzerland's Institute of Radiation Physics discovered traces of polonium-210, a deadly radioactive isotope, on some of Arafat's belongings. Soil and bone samples were subsequently taken from Arafat's grave in the West Bank.

On Wednesday, Al-Jazeera published the Swiss team's 108-page report. The results "moderately support the proposition that the death was the consequence of poisoning with polonium-210," the report said.

Polonium is a rare and lethal substance. The element can be a byproduct of the processing of uranium, but usually is made artificially in a nuclear reactor or a particle accelerator.

The examination of Arafat's remains found "unexpectedly high levels" of polonium-210, the Swiss team wrote.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Saudi Arabia

Huge crackdown on illegal workers leaves 1 dead, 16,000 arrested

Saudi police killed an Ethiopian migrant who tried to flee arrest, authorities said Wednesday, as a crackdown on foreigners working illegally in the kingdom widens with more than 16,000 arrests. The security sweep comes after months of warnings by the Saudi government, which has created a special task force who are combing shops, construction sites and restaurants in search of foreign workers without proper permits.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Looking for 'closure'. Hijacker returns to U.S. from Cuba to face justice

An American who hijacked an airliner to Cuba nearly 30 years ago flew back home Wednesday to face U.S. justice.

FBI agents took William Potts, 56, into custody shortly after his flight from Havana landed at Miami International Airport, said an FBI spokesman. Potts faces a 1985 federal indictment for hijacking a Piedmont Airlines flight in 1984.

In interviews prior to leaving Cuba, Potts said he was seeking "closure" and hoped to convince U.S. prosecutors to give him credit for the 13-plus years he spent in Cuban prison for hijacking the flight.

Even though Potts could have stayed in Cuba, he decided to come home and take his chances with the legal system.

"It's time it had closure. Why leave it hanging, why leave this gaping uncertainty?" he said. "So I want to resolve that because … having completed my sentence, I feel like I want to put all that stuff behind me. I don't want that lingering over or impeding anything I might want to do. Once you've paid your debt to society you're entitled to a fresh start."

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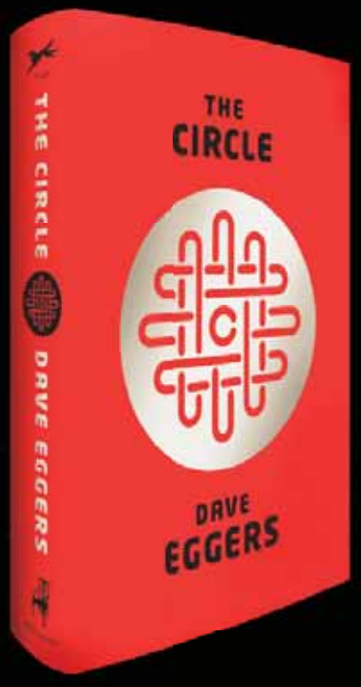

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–THE NEW YORK TIMES

"WE HAVE MET BIG BROTHER,
and he is us."
–LEV GROSSMAN, TIME

BY DAVE EGGERS

RANDOMHOUSE.CA
MCSWEENEYS.NET/BOOKS

Few movies pass new gender-bias rating in Sweden

Study. Of the top 100 U.S. films in 2011, women accounted for 33% of characters and 11% of protagonists

The director of movie theatre Bio Rio in Stockholm, Ellen Tejle, holds an A-rating certificate. Cinemas in equality-minded Sweden are using the test to highlight an absence of gender bias. AMI BRAMME/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

You expect movie ratings to tell you whether a film contains nudity, sex, profanity or violence. Now movie theatres in equality-minded Sweden are introducing a new rating to highlight gender bias, or rather the absence of it.

To get an A rating, a movie must pass the so-called Bechdel test, which means it must have at least two named female characters who talk to each other about something other than a man.

"The entire Lord of the Rings' trilogy, all Star Wars movies, The Social Network, Pulp Fiction and all but one of the Harry Potter movies fail this test," said Ellen Tejle, the director of Bio Rio, an art-house movie theatre in Stockholm's trendy Sodermalm district.

Bio Rio is one of four Swedish movie theatres that launched the new rating last month to draw attention to how few movies pass. Most visitors have reacted positively to the initiative and "for some people it has been an eye-opener," said Tejle.

Beliefs about women's roles in society are influenced by the fact that movie watchers rarely see "a female superhero or a female professor or person who makes it through exciting challenges and masters them," Tejle said, noting that the rating doesn't say anything about the quality of the film. "The goal is to see more female stories and perspectives on cinema screens."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cars and smokestacks

Carbon dioxide levels at record high: UN

World carbon dioxide pollution levels in the atmosphere are accelerating and reached a record high in 2012, the UN weather agency said Wednesday.

The heat-trapping gas was measured at 393.1 parts per million last year, up 2.2 ppm from the previous year, said the Geneva-based World Meteorological Organization in its annual greenhouse gas inventory.

That is far beyond the 350 ppm that some scientists suggest as the safe upper limit. As the chief gas blamed for global warming, carbon dioxide's 2012 increase outpaced the past decade's average annual increase of 2.02 ppm. It's expected to cross 400 ppm by 2016.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Barbecued' for a cause

Animal-rights activist and co-founder of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) Ingrid Newkirk lies on a mock barbecue stand as a sign of protest in Mumbai on Wednesday. The action marks World Vegan Month, which celebrates health, environment and the animal-friendly vegan diet. RAFIQ MAQBOOL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This photo shows a barge on Treasure Island in San Francisco on Tuesday. It is one of three mysterious floating structures that have sparked online speculation. JEFF CHIU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Google says barge is for interactive learning

Shrouded in secrecy. Coast guard inspectors who visited the construction sites had to sign non-disclosure agreements

Internet giant Google says it is exploring using a large barge as an interactive learning centre.

A statement released Wednesday from Google's press centre may help end weeks of speculation about the purpose of structures on two barges, one being built in the San Francisco Bay, another off Portland, Maine.

"Google Barge ... A floating data centre? A wild party boat? A barge housing the last remaining dinosaur? Sadly, none of the above," says the statement. "Although it's still early days and things may change, we're exploring using the barge as an interactive space where people can learn about new technology."

Google has been building a four-storey structure in the heart of the San Francisco Bay for several weeks, but managed to conceal its purpose by constructing it on docked barges instead of on land, where city building permits and public plans are mandatory.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jurassic discovery

'King of gore' dino ruled before T. rex

Paleontologists on Wednesday unveiled a new dinosaur discovered in the western state of Utah that proves giant tyrant dinosaurs like the Tyrannosaurus rex were around 10 million years earlier than previously believed.

A full skeletal replica of the carnivore — the equivalent of the great uncle of the T. rex — was on display at the Natural History Museum of Utah alongside a 3D model of the head and a large painted mural of the dinosaur roaming a shoreline.

It was the public's first glimpse at the new species, which researchers named Lythronax argestes. The first part of the name means "king of gore," and the second part is derived from poet Homer's southwest wind. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Formula six?

Search engine ordered to block Mosley orgy photos

A French court ruled Wednesday that Google must rid its search results of nine images of an orgy involving former Formula One chief Max Mosley.

Google's associate general counsel, Daphne Keller, said the ruling amounted to asking the search giant to build a "censorship machine."

In 2008, the now-defunct News of the World newspaper published a story alleging that Mosley participated in a sex session with prostitutes. It also posted a video on its website that purported to show Mosley during the session.

"This is a troubling ruling with serious consequences for free expression, and we will appeal it," said Keller.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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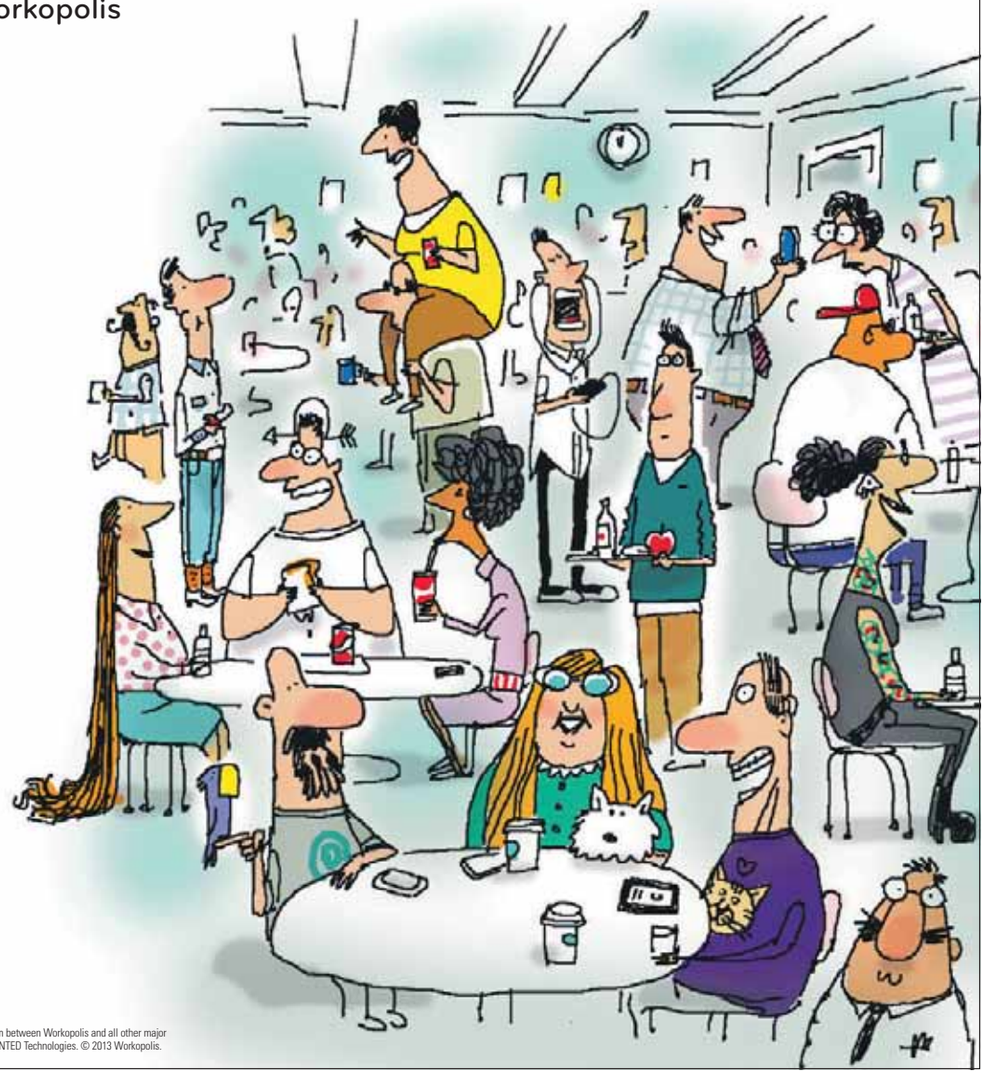

"Number one job site" based on six-month average online job postings for period ending September 30, 2013. Comparison between Workopolis and all other major paid online job boards. Does not include online classified sites or job posting aggregator sites. Statistics provided by WANTED Technologies. © 2013 Workopolis.

A toxic relationship?
Canadians have trouble trusting telecom providers

Complaints about wireless data, roaming and Internet bandwidth charges have more than doubled, with Canadian consumers showing increasing distrust of the bills they get from telecom providers, says the industry's watchdog group.

Billing charges involving these three issues generated customer complaints more than 1,500 times in the past year, according to the annual report by the Commissioner for Complaints for Telecommunications Services released on Wednesday.

The non-profit group helps resolve disputes between consumers and telecom service providers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Random biz fact of the day

88%

The job rejection rate if you have a photo of yourself on your CV.
NEXCAREER

FENG LI/GETTY IMAGES FILE

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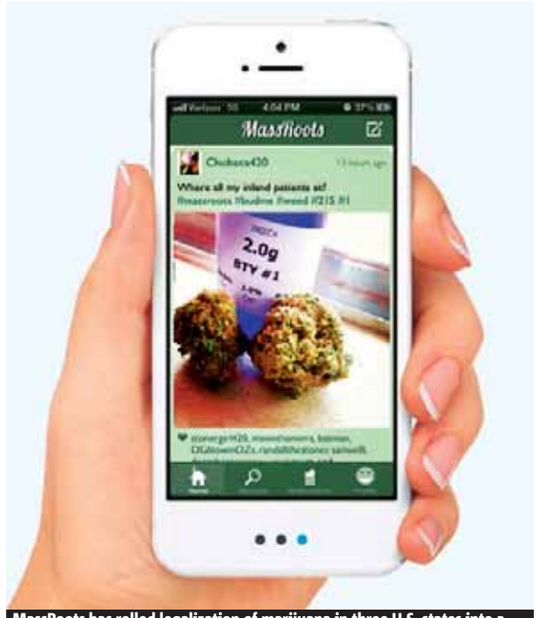
Natural gas: $3.50 US (+2¢)
Dow Jones: 15,746.88 (+128.66)

The green rush: Investors high on potent profits in U.S.



MassRoots has rolled legalization of marijuana in three U.S. states into a high-grade social media app for consumers. CONTRIBUTED

Budding business. The legalization of marijuana in some U.S. states has sparked massive growth, with $2.3B in projected sales in 2014

KIERON MONKS
Metro World News in London

A year after the first three U.S. states legalized marijuana, it has become an irresistible commodity in a booming industry. Conformation of the revolution came in Seattle this week, where investors paid over $1,000 US just to attend a start-up fair and have the chance to buy in.

"It's an extremely professional event full of high-quality opportunities," says Isaac Dietrich, CEO of MassRoots, a social media app for consumers. The 21-year-old has secured $150,000 US in investment from hedge fund managers, and the only way is up.

The "gold rush" includes projected sales figures of over $2.3 billion US next year, according to investors circle ArcView, representing growth of 64 per cent — the fastest of any domestic industry.

Mellowing out on marijuana

A recent Gallup opinion poll showed 58 per cent public support for full legalization. Jim Willett, 62, ex-navy and social conservative, is now among those pro-pot.

- "It's a much broader and more diverse type of company than the early days of just selling (marijuana) pipes," said Willett, who has made $750,000 US from a $150,000 US investment in a specialist marijuana security firm, and holds software and agricultural shares too.

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Douglas Coupland

Douglas Coupland's latest novel, Worst. Person. Ever., is available from Random House Canada.

Day 4

metronews.ca/temp

Who's the boss?

Meet and grit: How to get ahead

You've likely heard the saying "It's not what you know, it's who you know."

While some might view temp work as just a way to make ends meet, it could be an opportunity to get a better job down the road.

Human-resources expert Laurie Ruettimann told monsterworking.com that being a temporary employee might not land you a full-time gig with a certain company, but the people you connect with could open up future employment doors for you. **METRO IN EDMONTON**

Social security

A way to get your foot in the door

While the money isn't always great, the payoff can be "unbelievable," said a consultant at Supertemp in Halifax, who declined to be identified.

"You meet a lot of clients and companies you wouldn't have a foot in the door with otherwise," she said, adding that about 25 per cent of Supertemp's clients transition to full-time work. **METRO IN HALIFAX**

GETTY IMAGES

Temp's Lack of Jeans Day Spirit Irks Co-workers

I walked into the office the next morning only to experience that sickening pang we all dread: jeans day — enforced perkiness among the girls, while the guys make theatrical, creepy, ass-gazing gropey faces in the lunchroom. No jeans for me.

My jacket wasn't even off when Sarah No. 3 stuffed a wad of documents covered with sticky notes into my hand. "I need these alphabetized like we did last week."

"Fine."

She stared at me.

"Is there a problem?" I asked.

"You know, it wouldn't have been so hard to throw on some jeans today."

"I'm not a very jeans-y person."

"Morale is really down around here and we need some fun."

"OK…"

"It's not even for us, Shannon. It's for the kids."

I gagged and then the phone rang: "Good morning. Taylor, Wagner & Kimura Filter Systems, a proud patriotic company since 1899. One moment, I'll connect you." Then the Danimal rolled up to the desk, winking like mad. "How was last night's, ummm … date?"

"Date? It wasn't a date. It was Mister McFunbury's for exactly 120 minutes."

"And what was Mr. Xu like?"

I wanted to keep my secret. "Nice enough. Limited English, though."

"Did he say anything about the company I should know about?"

Boy did he ever! "No. Mostly we just stared at the How I Met Your Mother reruns playing on the screen above the salad bar." A total lie. "I don't think he's very espionage-y."

"Oh." Danimal seemed let down.

Just then Kyle walked in with a delivery. "Hot and heavy at McFunbury's last night, huh?"

I was peeved. "What the —? It's none of your business, Kyle. And who told you?"

"I was driving back from the oil refinery. Saw you there with your date. Senior's Night, too—rocking!"

Jeans day — enforced perkiness among the girls, while the guys make theatrical, creepy, ass-gazing gropey faces in the lunchroom.

"The refinery? Why were you there?"

"I'm applying for a job."

"Oh." Kyle was acting as if he and I are somehow a real couple. At the same time, there I was getting surprisingly verklempt thinking of no more Kyle, with him working at that big gross refinery for the rest of his life.

Kyle said, "I'm sick of being a temp on wheels, and it's occurring to me that I'll never even be middle class let alone some big success story, and maybe I need to get my foot in the door at a place that is never going to go out of business — hence oil."

The phone rang; it was Xu. "Gotta take this, guys." I picked it up. "Good morning. Taylor, Wagner & Kimura Filter Systems, a proud patriotic company since 1899."

Kyle and the Danimal lumbered off.

I lowered my voice into the receiver. "Hey Shoeboy. How you doing?" **TO BE CONTINUED…**

Random fact of the day

We're obsessed with hole foods:

- There are more doughnut shops in Canada per capita than any other country.

SOURCE: CBC.CA

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NOT GOING TO (C)RACK AND RUIN

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Take a deep breath, everyone.

I'm not going to make a single crack-related pun, because as a front-line witness to this extraordinary week I think it would be in everybody's best interests if I made multiple crack-related puns.

I live in Toronto, and can't begin to explain how dreamlike it's been since police found the video of Mayor Rob Ford smoking cracky tabaccy.

It's one thing to see it from a distance and laugh, but when it's happening right in your city and — uh, hold on, the pro wrestler Iron Sheik just arrived at city hall to challenge Ford to a fight — as I'm writing this.

This will be my last column. I'm off to live in the woods.

Crack is wack: The last few days have been unreal even without professional wrestling; it's like I've been ingesting some intense, illegal narcotic that gives intense feelings of euphoria and disorientation. (EDS: Will be more specific when I think of one.)

As one example, Ford, again as I write this, is showing kids around city hall for Take Your Kids to Work Day. Meanwhile, one of the local news papers has published a lifestyle article, "How To Talk To Your Children About The Mayor."

I live in the Twilight Zone.

Ford is a surreal mayor to begin with. His successful platform of law, order and honesty from an average Joe is an awkward fit for a disorderly crack-smoking liar from a well-to-do family. He also says he's pro-car, but I'm starting to think the next round of court documents will show that whenever nobody's looking he hops on a bicycle.

At least half my conversations lately have been with friends from outside the city who ask: "So, uh… what's up with your mayor?" They ask in a curious but cautious tone, the way you might ask a friend about their upcoming sex change. "We love you no matter what, but could you explain it to me?"

Makes me wonder what it's like at home for people who support Ford. Do they get calls from out-of-province friends who say, "Saw your mayor smoking crack on the news. So jealous! Mine just flips burgers and cuts ribbons."

I used to try to explain Ford's appeal — the suburban support, the fiscal conservatives — but from now on I'm just going to say that 45 per cent of Torontonians adore crack. The city's just as liberal as you've heard, everyone! Pot, schmot. Legalize everything!

Besides, I'm not worried about our international reputation the way some people are. It's not like people aren't going to London, England, because of Mayor Boris, who from a distance sometimes seems like a Ford that drives on the left. And I don't think many people look at Jeffrey Dahmer and think, "Well, that's Wisconsin for you!"

I'm done worrying about Ford. As the mayor himself might say, we need to move forward, not crackward.

I say Toronto — and Canada — should embrace its crazy characters, the mayor included. Otherwise we might go insane. Or put another way, we laugh that we may not crack.

And ... exhale.

ZOOM

Mudslinging? It's mud-singing!

DANIEL TRIM/REX FEATURES

Funny fish seem to be operatic

These wide-mouthed amphibious fish look like they are duetting in an audition for a singing talent show. Wildlife photographer Daniel Trim couldn't believe the strange display unfolding when he spent time watching a group of mudskippers (Oxudercinae).

He observed them pulling a range of funny poses as they languished in the mud at Krabi in Thailand.

"The two mudskippers became very aggressive and lined up side-by-side and postured making strange 'popping' and 'gurgling' noises before viciously attacking each other for several minutes. The loser did eventually retreat with only its pride in tatters," Trim said.

METRO

Living the life

- These amphibious fish live in the Indo-Pacific region and the Atlantic coast of Africa. Many species of mudskipper spend 90 per cent of their time on land.
- These fish fill their gill chambers with water, creating an oxygen tank that allows them to breathe out of water.

Quoted

"This may look like two drunk friends singing their hearts out but this is a territorial display as one male ventures too close to another's burrow."

Daniel Trim, 26, wildlife photographer

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Learning to code and design websites doesn't have to be a difficult or expensive project at all. Start with these three resources, and you can get started tonight in your own home at zero cost.

SCREEN GRAB

W3 Schools :

The grandaddy of them all, W3 offers free tutorials in pretty much any development technique you'll need to know in a clean and easy format. An easy recommendation for somebody looking to learn. (w3schools.com)

Code Racer:

Gawd! Lessons and tutorials are just soooooo boring, though, right? How about a little gamification, instead? Swiftly code your way through a series of challenges to get ahead of the competition on the race tracks. Badges. Achievements. It's like Candy Crush, but worth your time. (coderace.me)

Mozilla Developer Network:

A massive wiki curated by devotees of an open web, you'll find a great mix of demos, tutorials and developer guides. Brush up on your skills here before challenging foes on the Code Racer track if you happen to be a sore loser. (developer.mozilla.org)

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Canadians are known for politeness, hockey talents and Bryan Adams. Oh and a crack-smoking mayor. What do you think of our new reputation?

@serpentina66: At least now we can sit at the 'cool' table at the UN.

@MadonaW: People act like he's the only person in office that has done anything "bad" I say random drug tests for all politicians #whatnow

@Jihzay_: I bet a surprising amount of mayors smoke crack. Most just avoid video cameras.

@stopspanglish: Ahem, *Toronto* is known for having a crack-smoking mayor.

@Vokal_Apinyawns: @chelseahandler brought @TOMayorFord up on yesterday's show. I am concerned about our reputation. #RealPriorities

@livelifeinneon: only a matter of time before we had some scandal. Maybe now people will stop saying "Eh" to us all the time.

@SteveDodd: NO NO NO Toronto is known for its mayor. He doesn't represent Canada thank you.

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SCENE 2

Have a drink, hear a story, watch Hawksley work, man

The God that Comes. Singer-songwriter spins Greek tragedy for a modern audience and there's never been a finer time to be a beer and whiskey fan (or Scotch. Or spirits ...)

BACKSTAGE PASS
Graeme McRanor
vancouver@metronews.ca

Run to the hills, for there you'll find a hedonistic revolt fuelled by wine, ritual, madness, and ecstasy.

Sounds amazing. Unfortunately for us, the hills — at least in this instance — are fictitious.

It's a contemporary take on Euripides' Greek tragedy, The Bacchae, called The God that Comes. And it stars Juno Award-winning singer-songwriter Hawksley Workman, who says the project was nearly a decade in the making.

"Christian Barry of 2b theatre company in Halifax ... brought the idea for the play to me, realizing that the story has a lot of prescient ideas, and seemed to resonate with a lot of social and political themes we both had been thinking about."

He adds: "We began marinating in various versions of The Bacchae. The play and music were written during sessions in Toronto, Burk's Falls, Calgary and Banff over the span of a year. The show itself is a one-man cabaret, but I felt the songs were so ripe to live in a more cinematic setting, fulfilling a creative wish I'd had for a while about creating an audio movie."

A work-in-progress version of the show dazzled crowds at the PuSh International Performing Arts Festival in January, and the full-scale version makes its debut at The Cultch on Nov. 13.

It runs through Nov. 24. Tickets start at $18. Visit thecultch.com for more information.

Hip, hip, Hopscotch hooray!

Beer and scotch lovers of the Lower Mainland, unite!

It's time to dust off your livers because the Hopscotch Festival is right around the corner. Yes, the self-proclaimed premium scotch, whisky, beer and spirits festival goes down (you see what I did there?) Nov. 11 to 17 at various venues across the city.

The main gig, as it were, is the Grand Tasting Hall, which offers beer and whisky connoisseurs an opportunity to sample more than 350 products with a few thousand strangers.

The GTH is at the PNE Forum Friday, Nov. 15 and Saturday, Nov. 16, from 6 to 10 p.m. Tickets are $45 to $50 and include five tasting tokens and a souvenir tasting cup.

Visit hopscotchfestival.com for more information.

Singer-songwriter Hawksley Workman stars in The God that Comes, a one-man cabaret, at The Cultch from Nov. 13 to 24.
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Blue Rodeo reboots with new album to stay in the game

Coming up. The band will embark on a two-month Canadian tour in the new year, hitting all 10 provinces before wrapping on March 2 in Montreal

Blue Rodeo's last release, the sprawling double album The Things We Left Behind, was a critical and commercial success that returned the Toronto alt-country originals to platinum status for the first time since 2002. Creatively they were riding high — and yet, behind the scenes, it felt as though they could be nearing the end.

Co-frontman Greg Keelor's hearing issues had only been growing more severe, and performing live was such a painful chore that he couldn't be around volume at all. In concert, he might as well have been relegated to special-guest status, limited as he was to materializing for a few acoustic songs scattered about the set.

"That was getting really bad," the band's other mastermind, Jim Cuddy, said in a recent interview seated next to Keelor. "It was such a bad version of the band."

So, they changed the band — drastically. Almost four years elapsed between that album and this week's release of their rich latest, In Our Nature. That's the longest gap between studio albums in Blue Rodeo's quarter-century-plus history.

At Cuddy's suggestion, the band swapped stage monitors for in-ear monitors that would be easier on Keelor's battered ears. They made Colin Cripps an official member on electric guitar, so that Keelor could play only acoustic and sing. They stood in a different formation onstage, to keep Keelor away from the sources of the loudest noise.

And, Cuddy says, it fundamentally changed the sound of the band's naturalistic new set of tunes.

"I think it's one of our best-sounding records," Cuddy says. "What we intended, that's what it sounds like. It's kind of woolly and comfortable. And I think it's got a lot of strength and the stuff's really played (well)."

Though they have a pristine studio in downtown Toronto, they headed off to Keelor's country farm to make the album above Cuddy's mild consternation.

"It was the only place I knew I could contribute to the record the way I wanted to," Keelor says. "It was a way that I'd worked out for myself to play music again. So I'm very grateful to everyone for doing that for me."

Meanwhile, the rustic setting grew on Cuddy.

"It became this beautiful holiday all down in the country," he said. "The band had coalesced because of all the playing we'd done."

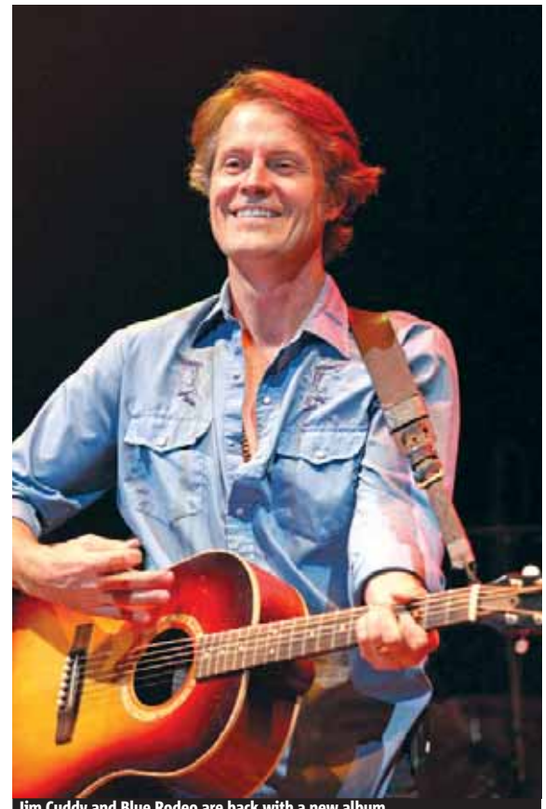
The band has experienced some difficult periods in the past, but they seem to be in a good place at the moment.

"For the last few years, we've had a very harmonious group of people. It's not like stuff doesn't happen. It's sort of amazing. It's a little microcosm of a society." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Old tensions

The band recorded 1995's Nowhere to Here during a particularly fractious period between Keelor and Cuddy.

- The band works as well as it does in part because of the friction between Cuddy and Keelor's opposing styles — Cuddy with his approachable tuneful pop-country, and Keelor with his tendency toward moodier material.



Jim Cuddy and Blue Rodeo are back with a new album called In Our Nature. PATRICK DOYLE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Sex, love and the age of a dynasty's overthrow

Books. Amy Tan's new novel explores the mother-daughter relationship in the context of a courtesan

EMILY LAURENCE
Metro World News in New York

It all started with a single photo. Amy Tan was flipping through an old family photo album when she came across a picture of her grandmother she hadn't noticed before. "She was wearing a tight jacket, pants and a headband," Tan remembers. Having read a book about Shanghai in the early 1900s, Tan recognized the garb as the uniform for courtesans, prostitutes with high-society clients. "Of course I was taken back by what this meant about my grandmother and I became very obsessed with the notion that she might have been a courtesan," Tan says.

The book is not based on Tan's grandmother, but it did set the stage for her latest novel, The Valley of Amazement, a story about an American woman and her daughter, who becomes a courtesan during the overthrow of the Ching dynasty.

Similar to Tan's book, The Joy Luck Club, the mother-daughter relationship is a strong theme in her new novel. In the book, the mother betrays her daughter, Violet, by leaving her behind. This abandonment leaves her mark on Violet, who thirsts for an enduring type of love and is not able to fully forgive her mother. "I know what (this feels like) because it happened to my sisters," Tan says. "They were left behind from my mother when she came to the U.S., and although they longed for her and loved her, they never quite forgave her."

Violet's coming of age story is made more complicated when she discovers that she's half-American and half-Chinese. The book takes place in the international settlement in Shanghai, which is where wealthy Westerners were housed. "During this time period, Chinese people were invisible. Nobody would ever consider making friends with a Chinese person," Tan says. For Violet to learn she is bi-racial alienates her from both American privilege and Chinese community. For this part of the story, Tan again was inspired by her ancestors.

"Both on my mother's side and my father's side there were family members who engaged with English-speaking translators," she says.

The Valley of Amazement is Tan's raciest book yet — she had never written a sex scene until penning this book. "I avoided including it, but my editor told me, 'This takes place in a courtesan house. You have to have sex.' Tan put a lot of research into her sex scene, scouring academic books about courtesan houses during this time period.

"Wives actually used to visit courtesan houses and pay money to learn what courtesans did with their husbands, so you knew something special was happening there," she says.

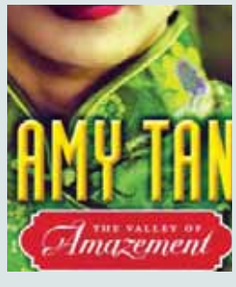
Practice makes perfect

"Wives actually used to visit courtesan houses and pay money to learn what courtesans did with their husbands."
Amy Tan on courtesan houses in China

Amy Tam tries her pen at her first sex scene in The Valley of Amazement. GETTY IMAGES

What's love got to do with it?

More than about sex, family or self-identity, The Valley of Amazement is about betrayal and the age-old question of if love can really conquer all. "Enduring love can come from a mother, lover, husband, or child, but it's about the search for that type of love and what it means," says Tan.



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It's tough being funny in 140 characters or less

Rob Delaney. Having just released a book, comedian reflects on trying to be funny on multiple platforms

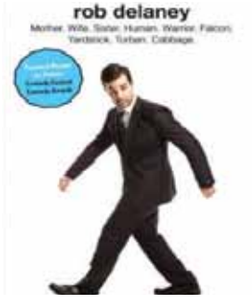
ALEXANDRA CAVALLO
Metro World News in New York

Rob Delaney has Twitter to thank for his success. CONTRIBUTED

Rob Delaney is pretty famous. But he didn't get there by following the career trajectory that most successful working comedians had to take. Delaney became famous through his Twitter account, where you can find the 36-year-old doling out sharply witty jokes and morsels of irreverent, ironic social commentary in 140 characters or less. Delaney is capable of being funny in long-form as well, however, as is evidenced by his just released book: Mother. Wife. Sister. Human. Warrior. Falcon. Yardstick. Turban. Cabbage. The book is part memoir, part rambling musings, and all funny. We got Delaney on the line to talk about the weird world of Twitter and the pains of standup.

Do you feel a lot of pressure to be funny every time you tweet?
I mean, I like to be funny, but I wouldn't probably call it pressure because — wait, let me rephrase that. Yes, I do feel pressure to be funny, which I enjoy, because I like pressure. You know, I'm one of those people that enjoy deadlines. I enjoy 140-character constraints. I enjoy going onto the stage in front of hostile people. I am damaged or tanked in whatever way makes me want to do those things. For better or for worse.

Well, as far as audiences go, the Twitter audience — or the Internet audience in general — is just about as hostile as it gets. How have you inured yourself to any haters on Twitter?
I've developed thick skin. I like to think about it as a positive. Nobody wants to have people say bad things about them, but it's a good idea to get desensitized to it if you want to have a career in the public. Because there is a measure of truth to the fact,well, that it's indicative of you having some success, you know? Obviously there are people who receive criticism where it's warranted — I can say with confidence that sometimes I deserve criticism that I get. I just try to not stress about it. It's just good that you're able to roll with it. And it helps you onstage too.



How does writing for the Internet, writing for standup and writing a book differ from each other— how do you wear all those hats?
Well, Twitter is very offhand. Whatever turd is rolling through your mind. I put no thought or prep into Twitter. For standup I work painstakingly over months and years to create stories and anecdotes and moods and presentation, Writing for the Internet, if it's Twitter, it's just bon mots of political and pop culture observations. And onstage, I mean I'm really working to create a visceral experience for the audience that demands that they stare at it and listen intently, forces them to laugh. It's physical, and a much stronger connection.

#laughingoutloud

"Well, Twitter is very offhand. Whatever turd is rolling through your mind. I put no thought or prep into Twitter."
Rob Delaney on using Twitter for comedy

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Scandal!
A-list celebrity dumps aluminum can.

Tory Weaver, star of the new film *Bad Decisions*, doesn't recycle her aluminum cans.

The inside scoop was leaked by the disposed can himself, who was quoted saying, "I can't believe she straight up tried to ditch me." Family and friends of the fallen star say they were shocked to hear the news and they hope she'll use better judgment in the future.

Meanwhile, Hollywood North experts have already downgraded Weaver's celebrity status to "C" list.

It just goes to show that every can you don't recycle says something about you. ***So always return your aluminum cans for recycling.***
– return-it.ca

The discarded can remained in this alley for days, scared and alone.

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Maybe it's because the indignities suffered by unpaid college students and post-grads provides sexier fodder, but Hollywood is much more enamoured with interns than temps. The spotlight hasn't completely eluded temporary workers, although sunny movies about short-term desk jockeys are in short supply. Temp flicks tend to go dark.

MIKE DOJC/FOR METRO

5 Temps on film

In the Company of Men

In order to get revenge on womankind two middle managers (Aaron Eckhart and Matt Malloy) conspire to emotionally destroy a deaf temp. They make a pact to make her fall in love with each of them and then break her heart. **Lasting Effect:** Neil LaBute's filmmaking career achieved liftoff after this adaptation of his play. Critics salivated over this envelope pusher and kept on drooling until he remade The Wicker Man.

Office Space

This cubicle comedy about working stiffs driven to the edge by their Kafka-esque work environment is a Gen X fave. Office Space may not ostensibly be about temping but it's worthy of inclusion. The inspiration for this classic was a soul-sucking temp job director Mike Judge had in which he was tasked with alphabetizing purchase orders. **Lasting Effect:** A red Swingline stapler is featured prominently in the film but the company didn't have a model that colour — a set designer painted it. Spurred by rabid Office Space fans, Swingline debuted their Rio Red, still a hot seller.

Haiku Tunnel

Absent both Japanese poetry or an underground passageway, this art house agony-of-office-work flick centres around a serial temp in both his career and personal life who is placed at a law firm where he takes on a permanent position. The change from temp to perm wreaks psychological havoc and the former temp can't seem to complete a menial task of mailing 17 of his boss' letters. **Lasting Effect:** The expression "go perm" received a mild pickup.

The Temp

When a cookie company exec's admin assistant takes a leave of absence, the temp who fills in (Lara Flynn Boyle) appears to be a miracle worker. But alas, this is a thriller — so she could possibly be a psycho. That means there's a mounting body count and a twist at the end as tends to be the prerogative of early '90s flicks in the Basic Instinct mould. **Lasting Effect:** Lara Flynn Boyle's bad girl cred remains intact. She recently played the evil witch in Hansel & Gretel Get Baked.

Clockwatchers

Clockwatchers casts an incisive eye on the everyday travails faced by short-term jobbers (Toni Collette, Parker Posey and Lisa Kudrow) from nobody knowing your name to dealing with maladroit managers, and being shunned in the cafeteria by permanent co-workers. **Lasting Effect:** This office-culture classic set the bar for future films about mind-numbing drudgery, patronizing bosses, and grand theft office supplies.

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Laying bare the filming of Blue is the Warmest Color

Adele Exarchopoulos. Actress talks about being angry, naked and vulnerable, and working with a difficult director

MATT PRIGGE
Metro World News in New York

Is Adele Exarchopoulos the next 'It' Girl? Some seem to think so. CONTRIBUTED

In addition to winning the Palme d'Or at Cannes this year, the epic relationship saga Blue is the Warmest Color netted a special award for its two lead actresses: Lea Seydoux and Adele Exarchopoulos, who play passionate-then-domesticated lovers. Seydoux is already a star in France, but Exarchopoulos is poised to become the next "It" girl — and she's still a teenager.

You shot for five months. Did you have any idea what the film would look like?
No. We did so much improvisation because (director Abdellatif Kechiche) wants to capture your soul and really doesn't want to see you act. He didn't even realize we did so many takes and shots. Three weeks before the end of the shoot he didn't even know the end — if I was going to kill myself or die or get depressed and take (pills). We shot a scene where I take (pills), but then Abdel said he didn't want to see her die.

What were some major scenes you shot that weren't in the theatrical cut?
There was a scene where my family discovers we're sleeping together. My mother discovers Emma naked in the kitchen, drinking milk. She comes into my room, takes the cover off me and sees me naked. She starts yelling, acting hysterical. She wakes up my father. It was this big scene where we were naked and vulnerable and yelling. To be angry while naked — that was weird.

Are there more scenes of Adele and Emma fighting? The relationship as seen is relatively calm, with only one big drag-out fight.
Yeah. It was really, really intense. There's this fight, and then another fight. It was a little more complicated between the two of us in the beginning, because the girl Emma is with was supposed to be a big problem. We shot a lot. With the footage he shot he could make three movies. However he cut it we would have been surprised. But I love the way it turned out. I think it's really intelligent.

The relationship spans seven years. You're still 19 in real life. What was it like playing older?
It was hard to play the teacher, because it's hard to find your place in front of 25 children who are so natural and spontaneous. You have to be authoritative.

How did you and Seydoux find your chemistry?
I didn't know her. I think that helped. It was two people meeting. And it was kind of a crush — a friendship crush. We became really close and we had this complicity. She was like my sister on the shoot, and she always will be, I think.

Were there any issues with a male director making a film about young lesbians?
No, because it isn't a homosexual movie. Never on the shoot did we use the word "lesbian" — not because it was taboo, but because it was a simple love story. We want people to forget it's about two women, because it could happen to anyone. It's about how people change your life. We all want this to happen to us once.

There's been a lot of talk in the press about Kechiche being hard to work with. How much of that is overstated?
It was hard, but it's also hard to make people understand an adventure like this. It's so human and so personal.

Do you regret saying in interviews that Kechiche was difficult?
No, because we said what we said. But they just pick up the negative things. Yeah, it was really hard to shoot this movie. But it was the best school I've ever had. And you remember more when it's hard.

Abdel would ask a lot of you but he would give a lot, too. Sometimes he's hard to follow.

He'd do many takes because he loves to work when you're really tired. He wants to capture your deepest feelings. For me, he's the best director in France.

Quoted

"It was this big scene where we were naked and vulnerable and yelling. To be angry while naked — that was weird."
Adele Exarchopoulos on one of the scenes that ended up being cut from the theatrical version of Blue is the Warmest Color

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Justin Bieber. ALL IMAGES GETTY

Spray what you like about Justin but he loves graffiti

The website of Brazil's biggest news outlet published photos Wednesday it says show pop star Justin Bieber spray painting graffiti on a wall. And it adds that police want to question him about it. The O Globo newspaper reported that photographers snapped photos of Bieber as he painted graffiti on a wall of the former Hotel Nacional in Rio de Janeiro Tuesday morning. Defacing buildings is a crime in Brazil punishable by up to one year in jail and a fine. O Globo said police went to the mansion Bieber rented in Rio to question him, but he was not there. Phone calls and emails to the police department for more details went unanswered. Calls and emails to Bieber representatives Melissa Victor, Nick Styne and Aaron Rosenberg were not returned. In the Colombian capital of Bogota, where he performed last week, Bieber upset authorities when he spray-painted graffiti on a wall along one of the capital city's main avenues while being escorted by officers in a police car. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

METRO DISH
OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Is Will Smith stepping out with co-star Margot Robbie?

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Will Smith reportedly had a steamy romp in a photo booth at a party with Focus co-star Margot Robbie, which may spell trouble for his allegedly shaky marriage to Jada Pinkett Smith, according to Star magazine. At the pre-Halloween bash in New Orleans, sources say Smith and Robbie slipped into the photo booth to pose for some snaps commemorating the night. "Once they pulled the curtain back to take the pictures, they let their inhibitions run wild, laughing, hugging and nuzzling each other in the dark," the source says. "He wasn't acting like a married man. He gave no signs that he was in a committed relationship." Smith and Robbie didn't stick around to collect the photos, though, as Smith's assistant snapped them up once they were printed. "After they left the party, they were gone all night," the source says. Apparently, Jada and Will Smith are living separate lives; they haven't appeared in public together since August. Smith has been in New Orleans for work since mid-September while Pinkett Smith has reportedly moved out of the family's home and is living with her brother, Caleb, in Calabasas, Calif. Is it bad that I'm OK with Will and Jada breaking up? They made it 15 years — that is several lifetimes for a union in Hollywood. What more do we want from them?

Abigail Breslin

Sun sets on Miss Breslin's innocent youth

Little Miss Sunshine star Abigail Breslin is apparently all grown up at 17 years old — at least grown up enough to have a 25-year-old boyfriend. Breslin has reportedly "just started dating" All Time Low singer Jack Barakat, according to E! News. Breslin and Barakat were photographed together at the premiere for her latest film, Ender's Game, and he "visited her on the set of her new movie." Her rep had no comment.

Twitter

@DanaDelany
When I was 5, a raccoon took a sandwich out of my hand. I think he's outside my bedroom glass door. #truelove4ever

@NiallOfficial
I'm havin the weirdest few days with this jetlag! Weird stuff keeps happening to me!

@ParisHilton
Trying to decide what to do for New Years. Getting so many offers from around world from so many amazing places that it's hard to choose.

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They give him Maison, when he's in need...

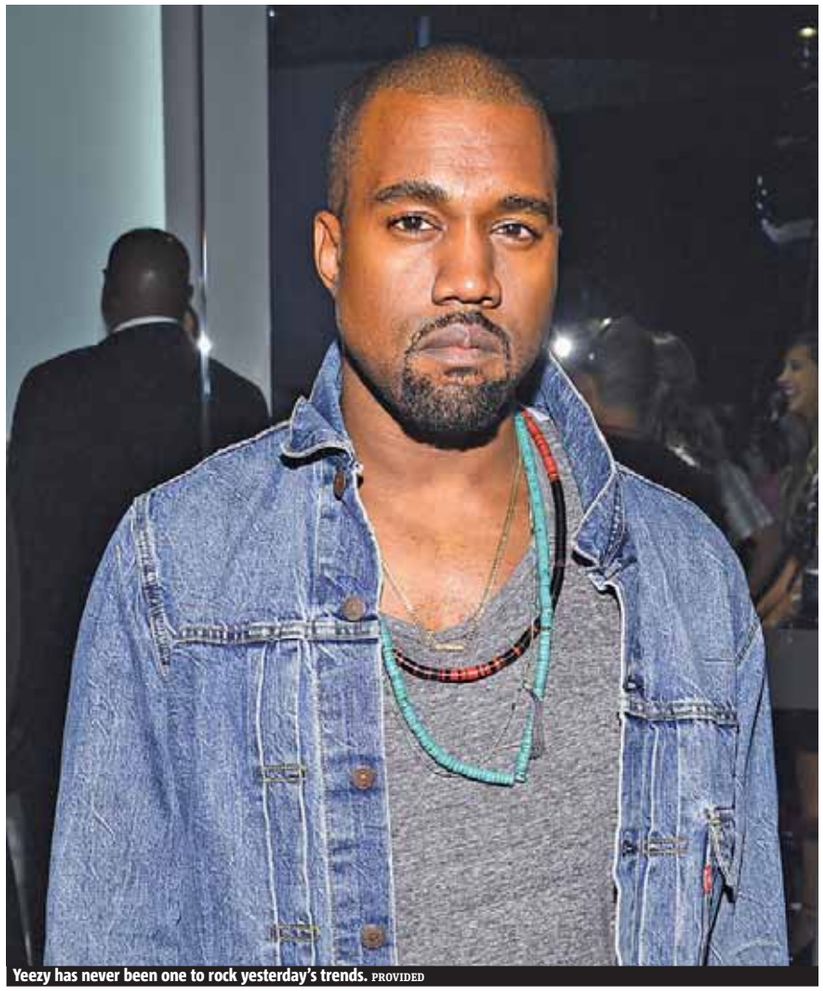
Tour de frock. From CD-Rom veils to re-purposed vintage gowns, Kanye West is determined to make fashion news, one way or another

ALICE TATE
Metro World News

It's been a big month for Kanye West. First, he puts a 15-carat rock on the finger of that small-time fiancée of his, Kim Kardashian. Next, he gets a giant wardrobe delivery courtesy of Maison Martin Margiela.

The French fashion house that has forever been shrouded in mystery has provided the singer with all of the outfits for his coming Yeezus tour. The extensive custom-made collection consists of 20 ready-to-wear pieces, 10 couture pieces, and a rumoured "exclusive" pair of trainers — we're intrigued.

The tour — the rapper's first solo concert trail in five years, which is taking him around North America — has unsurprisingly already garnered much music media attention. Heck, it even has its own Wikipedia page. But now, with the news of Margiela's involvement, it's caught the eye of the fashion world, too. We spoke to Margiela's team who answered the questions we were dying to know — except for the big one: will Margiela have any involvement in the wedding? For now, that one remains a mystery.



Yeezy has never been one to rock yesterday's trends. PROVIDED

How involved has Kanye been in designing the collection?
The collection is a re-work of Maison Martin Margiela's haute couture archive pieces. They have been chosen both by Kanye and the Maison. The Maison then researched new fabrics and volumes to reinterpret the pieces and match contemporary artist Vanessa Beecroft's scenography.

Can you guide us through some of the key pieces?
An elongated embroidered bomber jacket was remade from a 1900s lady's dress; a coat was made out of military blankets; and military jackets were assembled together to create an oversized cape. As for the veils, some have been re-interpreted from our archives, while others were created specially for the Yeezus tour. Four different veils complete the set— one is composed of marble pieces and another one is made from CD-ROMs. All are embroidered on a silk chiffon base.

How long has it taken to pull the outfits together?
It took approximately five weeks from the first piece of research to the final fittings.

Are celebrity relations and outfits a direction Margiela is looking to take?
The Maison still has a very discreet policy in terms of celebrity dressing but we always choose to work with people we feel close to.

Will any of the pieces from the tour retail?
None of these pieces will be sold. Similar sneakers can be found in store as they are Margiela classics but this pair were reproduced in special colours for the Yeezus tour.

Selective style

"The Maison still has a very discreet policy in terms of celebrity dressing but we always choose to work with people we feel close to."
Maison Martin Margiela team

Wanted. Maloles loafer

When you think of tortoiseshell you probably only associate it with eyewear. And rightly so, because it's rarely used outside of that narrow confine. That's why these Maloles loafers are Wanted-worthy — they take an underused material and make use of its full potential.

KIT GILBERT

Wanted. Eddie Borgo bracelet

Eddie Borgo will redefine how you look at cocktail jewelry. This gold-plated bracelet is inlaid with beautifully tonally balanced stones, including howlite, jade and oynx, bringing more to your jewelry box than your average, conventional cheap and cheerful pieces.
$746, mytheresa.com

KIT GILBERT

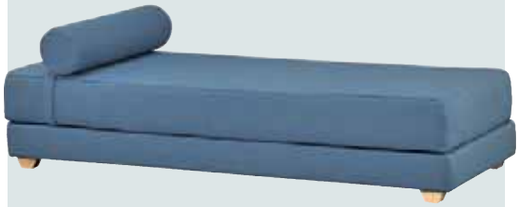
Double-duty daybeds

The daybed has been a furnishing staple for hundreds of years, and with good reason — it's the perfect blend of sofa and guest bed. It works in a small space as a double-duty piece, and in a large space, it can float in the middle of a room.

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Chic and colourful

It's a stylish lounge by day, but flips out into an oversized queen bed by night. Lubi Turquoise Sleeper Daybed, $999, cb2.com.



Storage solution

Simple lines, a stylish tufted mattress and storage drawers mean this works as a spare bed or home-office perch. Stratton Daybed With Drawers, $2,090, potterybarn.com.

Two-sided perch

Because this is open on each side, it's the perfect two-sided perch when floated in the middle of a long room. Natuzzi Sassi Leather Daybed, $1,800, sears.ca.

The all-rounder

A bed, couch and storage all in one. Ikea PS Daybed, $599, ikea.ca.

Room for a crowd

Extra length and traditional lines make this custom piece hip and happening. Nine Foot Field Bench, $4,500 US, johnderian.com.

Entertaining

Don't be a guest at your own party

Is there really such a thing as carefree entertaining?

CHARLES THE BUTLER
askcharlesthebutler@metronews.ca
For more, visit charlesmacpherson.com

Though the era of domestic staff is long over, many people are still trying to convince the modern-day host that it's somehow possible to entertain at home stress-free while acting like a guest at your own party.

Well, I'm here to tell you that there is nothing further from the truth.

Yes, a get-together at your home can be done with a minimum of stress depending on how you plan your menu. Let me give you a few examples. If you're going to be cooking the dinner, choose menu items that you can make ahead of time. Then all you have to do is put them on the stove or in the oven, and pay them relatively little attention until they're ready. A beef stew, lasagna or roast chicken are great examples. Make your salad ahead of time too, so all you need to do when you serve it is to add your homemade dressing. Have your friends bring a ready-made cake for dessert. You, my readers, get the point.

But as for the question of whether you can act like a guest at your own party, the answer is — never.

You see, as a host, you have the important responsibility of ensuring your guests are having a good time. You want to make sure they always have a drink in hand, that the dip for your hors d'oeuvres is fresh, and that everyone has something to eat and, most importantly, someone interesting or fun to talk to. What this means is that you can never completely relax as a guest would.

You can and absolutely should have a good time — just don't confuse having a good time with abdicating your responsibilities as a host.

By all means have a good time at your own party, Charles says, but don't forget your responsibilities toward your guests. ISTOCK

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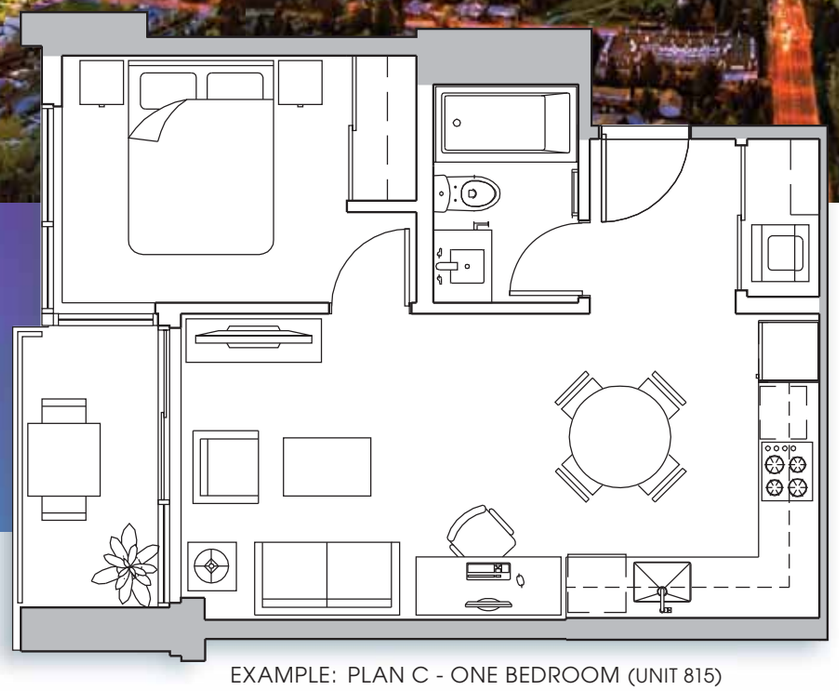

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A commitment to bold colour

Paint. If you're thinking of a bright feature wall, here are a few common mistakes to watch for

With bold paint colour becoming increasingly popular, many homeowners and interior designers are choosing to take the plunge with bright hues.

Bold feature walls and painted rooms are being seen more on the pages of magazines and design websites, and Kyla Bidgood, registered interior designer, said more of her clients are asking for the same.

"I think people have commitment issues with colour, but they want to experiment a little bit, and obviously the easiest way to do that is by not using paint," she said.

"You can use accessories, pillows, throw blankets or even area rugs to get pops of colour into a space without committing to paint your space." But if you're looking at expanding the splash of colour onto your walls, Bidgood said it is important to consider balance.

Even though many people perceive white as a neutral and boring colour, it can be an important addition to a space if furnishings, accessories and artwork are bright and bold.

"White really draws your eye away from the wall to other furnishing, art and patterns," said Bidgood. "Navy blue and blacks make a piece of art with a white frame really pop, especially if the art is in a bright colour."

Bidgood said many people pick their paint colours based on the chip at the store. Instead of buying all your paint based on the chip, Bidgood said take small paint samples of several variations of the colour.

"It's really about finding the right hue, so if you have a colour in mind chances are what it looks like on the chip is going to be different than how it looks on the wall," she said.

"Get maybe three to five variations of the colour, and paint the swatches right on the wall and have a look at it in different types of lighting. Sit with it for a few days because you might have an idea of how it will look, but after a few days you may not love it as much anymore."

A common mistake Bidgood said people make when it comes to picking a wall colour is that it can be something they would choose in a fabric or piece of clothing.

"It doesn't necessarily translate to a larger surface like a wall," she said. "When you're picking a colour you often need to pick a colour that is slightly less intense because it is going to be very bold when you paint a large space." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Resale value

- When it comes to using bright paint colours in a home, a concern is often how it might affect the resale of the property. But whether you go bold or safe and neutral, interior designer Kyla Bidgood said you're never going to great a space that everyone loves.
- "Chances are if you sell and someone moves in they will want to paint it again anyways," she said. "If I were to buy a house that was all beige, I would definitely be looking to paint it. It's not to say the neutrals are necessarily safe either."

A bright red door on a home decorated by Victoria-based interior designer Kyla Bidgood. JEN STEELE PHOTOGRAPHY

Victoria-based interior designer Kyla Bidgood perked up this home office with bright blue paint. JEN STEELE PHOTOGRAPHY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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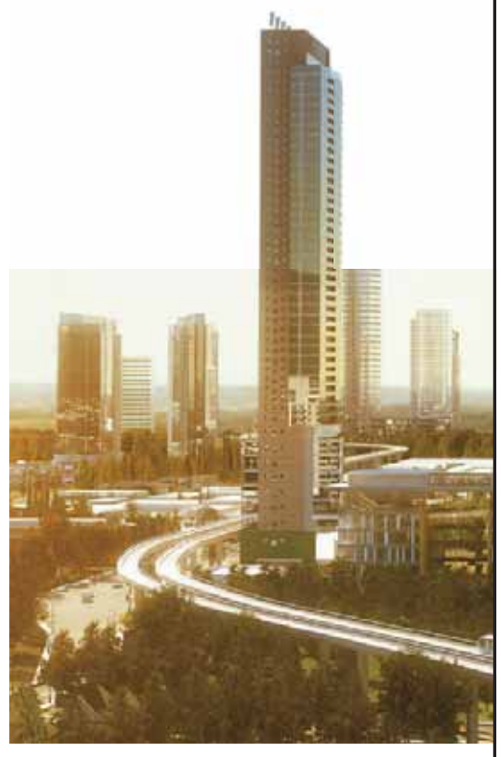

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Shaken with a twist: Bar gear gets swanky

Entertaining. Materials such as shagreen, faux tortoise and hammered silver are adding flair to drinking accessories

Home beer and spirit-making have become popular hobbies. Bars and beverage stores feature a growing range of artisanal spirits and craft brews. Cocktail parties are back in vogue.

And retailers are responding to all this imbibing by offering furniture, barware and accessories with cosmopolitan flair. All you need are a few invitations, snacks and some good music for the party to begin. Let's pop the cork on what's new:

"Nowadays, entertaining does not have to mean having a glitzy full bar. Bar carts have become more delicate, refined, and smaller in scale, so you can tuck them into a corner of a room or blend them in with the rest of the furniture," says Veranda magazine's market editor Catherine Lee Davis.

West Elm's Parker slim-profile cart in acorn-stained walnut veneer with brass rail trim has a mid-century vibe. The walnut-stained Dodson cart features a flip-down front concealing a mirror-lined interior with plenty of storage. And a cart in polished nickel with two foxed mirror shelves evokes Art Deco glamour. Visit westelm.com.

If you want the look of a built-in bar, consider Pottery Barn's modular collection of wine grids and drawered cabinets. In black or mahogany finish, the pieces can be configured to look like a hutch or buffet. Check out potterybarn.com.

Davis says that with barware, the trend is toward shaking it up. "We see lots of different materials like hammered silver, tortoise or shagreen," she says. "It's all about mixing and matching. After all, entertaining should be about having fun."

Gent Supply Co. (gentsupplyco.com) has a natty collection of coasters, glassware and flasks printed with illustrations of turn-of-the-century gentlemen duellers, narwhals, anchors and animals dressed in distinguished garb.

Artist Richard E. Bishop (richardebishop.com), known for wildlife etchings in the 1930s, '40s and '50s, has his work on an array of bar glasses and decanters. Ducks, trout, foxes and horses set a country house tone.

A punch bowl that rests in the clutches of an octopus, and a sculpted shell held by a delicate coral stand are part of an aluminum barware collection at Z Gallerie. There's also a faux crocodile service tray in rich eggplant, studded with silver rivets, that makes a sophisticated statement.

Silver cocktail picks and stir sticks topped with airplanes evoke the Second World War. And a mirrored sign with phrases like Stirred and Straight Up printed in a gold retro font would make great wall art. Check out zgallerie.com.

JC Penney has a whimsical yet elegant wine decanter from Michael Graves Design that features his signature bird as built-in aerator. Visit jcp.com.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Budget-friendly bar carts

- If you're setting up a first apartment and don't have much money, consider giving an old nightstand or tray table new life as a miniature bar.
- Hit flea markets and junk yards for salvaged tool trolleys, medical supply carts or old microwave stands and spiff them up with paint, paper or other decorative materials like stick-on tiles and mirror. The web has many artful ideas, including at curbly.com.

Z Gallerie's Octopus Bowl can work either as an ice bucket or punch bowl, $170 US, zgallerie.com.

Foxed Mirror Bar Cart, $437, West Elm.

Parker Mid-Century Bar Cart, $382, West Elm.

A mirrored sign with a retro font makes for vintage-style art in a home-bar area. Libations sign, $150 US, zgallerie.com.

Right, a pair of vintage-style glasses from Gent Supply Co. have etchings of narwhals, $20 US. Below, a flask printed with a vintage drawing of a dapper gentleman, $28 US, Both at gentsupplyco.com.

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Collodion photography's modern Gothic feel

Art. Technique popular during the mid-1800s is being embraced as an antidote to digital pics

These wet-plate collodion images include, from left: Kyleigh, Boulder, Colorado; and Dusty, Riverdale, Utah by photographer Quinn Jacobson. Next are images of lifelong skate-boarders Terrill Schmidt of Arvada, Colo., and Walter Lacey of Denver by photographer Matt Alberts.

QUINN JACOBSON/STUDIO Q MATT ALBERTS PHOTOGRAPHY

Frustrated by the ease at which digital photos can be taken and doctored, some artists are kicking it old school: They've revived wet-plate collodion photography, a medium invented and popular during the mid-1800s.

Complicated, cumbersome (it requires darkroom work on the spot) and potentially hazardous, the collodion process uses raw chemicals in a race against the clock.

The result is eerie and antiquated, which suits both adventurous photographers and art collectors looking to add a modern Gothic feel to their homes.

"There's something about these hands-on, historical processes. You're so in control, you're making your film from scratch (but) you're subject to physics and the chemistry, and then you're trying to make something in your mind's eye — the composition and lighting — while maintaining this technical finesse," says Quinn Jacobson, a Denver-based photographer. "There's great satisfaction in accomplishing that. There's a level of satiety that you don't get from working in digital or even film."

Collodion portraits and landscape images have fine details but appear dark and moody — even haunting or ghostly.

"The aesthetic is kind of a half-remembered dream," says Jacobson.

The process involves coating a surface, usually glass or aluminum, with a mixture of collodion, ether, alcohol and two salts that dries to a tacky, clear film.

The collodion is derived from a flammable compound known as guncotton (in other uses, it's flash paper) dissolved in sulfuric and nitric acids.

The plate is made light-sensitive in a bath of silver nitrate, after which it is exposed to light. The image exposure can take seconds or several minutes, depending on available light and photographer preference. It's developed and then fixed, or stabilized, in a solution of potassium cyanide. With longer exposure and an added step, a negative for printing can be made.

Of all the chemicals in the process, potassium cyanide is the most dangerous. "A tenth of a gram is enough to kill a horse," says wedding photographer and collodion fan Matt Alberts. "There's 18 grams in my fix. That's kind of scary."

Alberts, also of Denver, learned the collodion craft from Jacobson nearly a year ago. He was motivated partly by learning that his ancestor, Lowell Gilmore of Albany, N.Y., worked in the medium more than a century ago.

Alberts has invested thousands of dollars in the collodion process, which for him captures the essence of photography.

"I'm creating something just with light and my hands. It feels more like art," he says.

Jacobson makes portraits of the "marginalized" — day labourers, the homeless, convicted felons. In his Ghost Dance project, he also documents sites in the West where troops massacred Native Americans in the mid-to-late 1800s. He's concerned he won't be able to capture the land's terrible past, but thinks the moody collodion — in use during those times — will help.

"It adds that mystery and darkness and that kind of melancholy feel to the whole project," says Jacobson. "I couldn't do this in film or digital. They'd be straight-up landscapes."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Atmospheric feel

"The aesthetic is kind of a half-remembered dream."

Denver-based collodion photographer Quinn Jacobson

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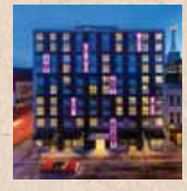
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Plugged in, but with panache

Futuristic furniture. The marriage of technology and decor has come a long way in recent years

It's one thing to have a beautiful, comfy bed. But what if it also included a TV screen, game console and dimmable, colour-changing lights?

Or say you've got just enough room in your apartment for a credenza or speakers, but not both. How about one piece that includes both — and a whole media system?

The integration of technology into home decor has come a long way since clunky TV screens peered out of armoires and media cabinets; today's super-thin screens can come embedded in the bathroom mirror or attached to the wall-like pieces of art.

TV manufacturers are moving into OLED (organic light emitting diode) technology, which can be linked to computers and other tech devices. It's thin as a pencil and able to be curved.

As for sound systems, Symbol Audio of Nyack, N.Y., has a New Audio Desk that incorporates high-quality speakers into a slim writing desk crafted from maple, walnut, oak or cherry.

Baby boomers may remember the family's old hi-fi system. While iPhones and iPads can now hold the equivalent of hundreds of Mitch Miller albums, there are still those among us who like the mid-century chic of a retro-styled system.

Symbol Audio (symbolaudio.com) pays homage to the hi-fi with the Modern Record Console, a walnut cabinet outfitted with a hand-built turntable, amplifier and built-in wireless router.

"The act of removing an album from its sleeve, cleaning and placing it on the turntable is interactive and physical. There is an undeniable charm to vinyl that's more than just a fascination with the past," said Blake Tovin, Symbol's founder.

Designer Chris Cushingham of Brooklyn, N.Y., crafts his own version of the hi-fi console out of walnut and corrugated cardboard. He'll also make you a custom one using your record player, audio gear and LP collection. Visit cushdesignstudio.com for more info.

Italian designer Edoardo Carlino's spacy-looking Hi Can canopy bed incorporates a theatre screen, integrated PC and game consoles, and built-in lights to create a self-contained bedroom-playroom. Check out hi-can.com.

Replace ceiling, floor or table lamps with IAV Lightspeaker's wireless fixtures (iavlightspeaker.com) and run your music through them. You get lighting, surround sound and no expensive wiring to deal with. For rentals and vacation homes, there's an outdoor version built into a faux rock you could put on a patio.

Kohler's Moxie showerhead (kohler.ca) has a Bluetooth speaker attachment so you can sync radio or playlists for bathing music.

Disengage the speaker and carry it to another room, or the beach. Colours include white, cherry red, navy and chartreuse.

Ready for entertaining? Just hit "party" on Lutron's new Homeworks system. It sets the mood of a room with spotlights, dimmable overheads, music and thermostat settings. The company offers customized lighting options for a variety of moods and rooms. Visit lutron.com.

If you'd just like to disguise outlet and vent covers, check out Trufig's marble, wallpaper, wood or concrete flush-mounted options, (trufig.com) which make the connection disappear into the wall.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The New Audio Desk by Symbol Audio has built-in high-quality speakers, and is available in maple, walnut, oak or cherry. SYMBOL AUDIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TV screens around the home

- The wallpaper mode on Sharp's new high-definition Aquos TV lets you display photos, paintings or other images as wall art when you aren't watching television. You can set a clock for display times, and the light level is reduced to get rid of glare.
- Want to stay on top of the morning news? Seura's TV screens embed in the bathroom vanity mirror. Robern's embed in the medicine cabinet. See seura.com and robern.com for more.
- TV manufacturers are moving into OLED (organic light emitting diode) technology, which can be linked to computers and other tech devices. It's thin as a pencil and able to be curved.

This Sharp AQUOS Ultra HD LED television features wallpaper mode, which allows a powered-off TV to display family photos, paintings or preloaded images. SHARP ELECTRONICS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Symbol Audio's Modern Record Console, an updated take on the retro hi-fi system, has a walnut cabinet outfitted with a hand-built turntable, amplifier and built-in wireless router. CHRIS CARROLL/ SYMBOL AUDIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Replacing old bathroom fixtures may not be in the budget, but you can still update the remaining decor — in this case, a shade and hanging lights amp up the retro theme, while a fresh colour palette keeps it contemporary. ISTOCK

Update a bathroom without throwing cash down the drain

Decor. If you can't afford to replace retro fixtures, decorate around them

Bathrooms covered in outdated tile with coloured sinks and bathtubs can be an eyesore for many homeowners, but instead of spending money gutting and renovating, the space can be updated by combining modern design and personal tastes.

When clients approach Victoria interior designer Nicole Scott about updating their washrooms, she said they are often tired of living in a room that represents a previous owner's or tenant's style.

"It is usually that people have said to me that there is this oppressive feeling of it being someone else's tastes and they want to change the feeling of it," she said.

Spend vs. save

- There are areas where Scott said it's worth spending the money. For example, even though there are products that are marketed as being suitable to cover laminate countertops, Scott said she would never paint a counter top.

Unlike larger rooms in a home, bathroom redesigns — as long as major fixtures aren't being moved — can be tackled by the homeowner.

Homeowners may have to develop their design around larger items in the bathroom that because of budget can't be removed, Scott noted.

"I think that the first thing people need to figure out is what is the overall feeling or style they want to achieve and then you can pick all of your colours and finishes based on that," she said. "If you live in an older home and like more traditional style you can pick fixtures and go in that direction.

"For tenants in an apartment who aren't able to change very much you may want to go with the retro feel of the tiles you can't change, and run with that."

Scott said even though washrooms can have limited wall space it's a great option to use unusual and interesting visuals. "One of the things I'm obsessed with right now is vintage soap labels," said Scott. "On eBay I just ordered some for myself and a client. We have these great vintage soap labels that you can frame inexpensively and put two or three on a wall. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Butter up your pork chops

The butter in this recipe balances and rounds out the smoke and the heat from the chipotle chili and the adobo sauce, and the toasted green pumpkin seeds add texture and eye appeal to the butter.

1. Butter: In a medium bowl mash or stir the butter until it is smooth and slightly fluffy. Add the chipotle, pumpkin seeds, chili powder and salt. Mix together, mashing with the back of a fork to make sure all the ingredients are incorporated. Taste, then adjust with additional salt, if needed.

2. Set a 6-by-12-inch sheet of kitchen parchment or plastic wrap on the counter. Spoon the butter onto it to form a log. Roll the butter up, then smooth out to form a round log about 5 inches long. Refrigerate until firm and easy to cut into rounds, about 15 minutes. The butter can be made in advance and stored, tightly covered, in the refrigerator for up to a week (or in freezer for up to 3 months).

3. When ready to prepare pork chops, prepare grill for direct, medium heat cooking.

4. Remove the butter from the refrigerator and cut four 1/2-inch slices off of the log (you will have some butter left over) and set aside.

5. Meanwhile, use paper towels to pat pork chops dry. Brush with thin coat of olive oil, then season with salt and pepper.

6. Place chops directly on cooking grate and grill for 5 minutes per side. The chops will be done when they feel "firm" to the touch and register 140 F at the centre. Remove the chops from the grill and top immediately with a piece of the butter.

7. Let chops rest 5 minutes before serving and allow the butter to melt over the top as it rests. If desired, serve with a second round of butter. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ ELIZABETH KARMEL, AUTHOR OF SOAKED, SLATHERED AND SEASONED.

Ingredients

Chipotle-Pumpkin Seed Butter
- 1 stick unsalted butter, softened
- 1 small chipotle chili in adobo sauce, drained and chopped finely
- 1 tbsp lightly toasted and cooled hulled pumpkin seeds (often called pepitas)
- 1/2 tsp ancho chili powder
- 1/2 tsp Maldon salt flakes or fleur de sel

Pork Chops
- 4 boneless centre-cut pork chops, 1-inch thick
- Olive oil
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper

Pork Chops with Chipotle-Pumpkin Seed Butter

This recipe serves four. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Luxury living doesn't have to be limited to five-star hotels.

North America's leading residential developer is bringing the first fantastically designed project to Vancouver's Kensington area — and it's surprisingly affordable.

Westbank's Kensington Gardens is a new vibrant master-planned community consisting of three residential towers plus a unique row of garden townhomes and a landscaped elevated courtyard.

The project is set to not only transform the area, but stake its claim as the new heart of Vancouver, Paukkunen says.

"This is a first of its kind, a landmark community, the first project in the area to offer real luxury living that starts with affordable pricing," Paukkunen says. "This project resembles a five-star hotel in its amenities and the upscale finishing."

With one-, two- and three-bedroom tower homes, plus a collection of signature terrace homes, garden homes and penthouses, there is something for everyone, she says.

"Kensington Gardens will appeal to a wide range of people, from first-time buyers to more discerning buyers looking for luxury without the hustle and bustle of being directly downtown while still enjoying the Vancouver address and proximity to all the city has to offer. We expect many people will also want to move from the suburbs to be closer to downtown."

Upscale amenities include an outdoor swimming pool, hot tub, media and multi-purpose lounge, an outdoor barbecue and fireplace, as well as a large diverse fitness facility and an Asian-inspired park.

"Each detail has been thoughtfully planned out and intelligently designed to provide the utmost quality of living," Paukkunen says. "The streetscape will be redefined with new public art, a supermarket, a premier Asian restaurant, and other exciting retail and services for residents to enjoy."

Some of the impressive home features include Nobilia German-made kitchens, Miele appliances, custom solid wood suite entry doors, granite stone thresholds, elegant wide-plank engineered wood flooring in brushed oak throughout main living spaces, open balconies or terraces, and central air conditioning, just to name a few.

THE AREA

Set in the new heart of Vancouver, Kensington Gardens boasts panoramic mountain, ocean and downtown views that are both breathtaking and refreshing.

Convenient transportation, including SkyTrain and bike routes, eclectic shops, dining and refreshing green space at your feet are just a few of the nearby attractive bonuses when living in this landmark community, Paukkunen says.

"The views of downtown and the North Shore Mountains are amazing and the location is unbeatable. There's really nothing else quite like this in the area."

The landmark community is transforming an entire city block into three magnificent towers that will blend exciting retail and service options, luxurious residences and five-star amenities into a new livable urban community.

The new heart of Vancouver is soon to be the envy of investors all over, especially as the community continues to evolve, Paukkunen says.

"There are a lot of existing parks and schools, shops, dining options and services in the area — the possibilities are endless. There hasn't been a lot of new development in the area but that's all set to change with Kensington Gardens and now there's a growing sense of community that exists."

Kensington Gardens will be located just 10 minutes from downtown Vancouver, close enough to get to work but still allowing for a quiet retreat at the end of the day.

The Kensington area where the development will be built is slated to be Vancouver's next great growth neighbourhood with a 1.5-square-kilometre area centred on Kingsway set to become a complete community under the Norquay Village plan. Approximately 3,400 additional housing units and 5,000 new residents are anticipated over the next 30 years.

For more information, visit kensingtongardens.ca, call 604-620-7886, or email info@kensingtongardens.ca.

North America's leading residential developer is bringing the first fantastically designed and executed project to this Vancouver community – and it's surprisingly affordable.

westbank

Coming November 2013

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KensingtonGardens

THIS IS NOT AN OFFERING FOR SALE. ANY SUCH OFFERING MAY ONLY BE MADE BY WAY OF DISCLOSURE STATEMENT. E.&O.E.

The Lions' Eric Taylor goes airborne in his pursuit of the Stampeders' Jeff Fuller as teammate Solomon Elimimian joins the play at BC Place on Friday. Taylor says in order to come out on top of this Sunday's West Division semifinal, the Lions need to shut down the Roughriders' ground game. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lions' Taylor looks to blanket Sheets

CFL. B.C.'s success in Sunday's West semifinal depends on stopping the Riders' run game

CAM TUCKER
cam.tucker@metronews.ca

A little individual recognition would've been nice, but ultimately, Eric Taylor has more important things to worry about.

When the West Division All-Star team was announced Wednesday morning, Taylor, the BC Lions' defensive tackle, was left off the list.

"It would make you feel good, but at the end of the day, if that's what you're playing for, I shouldn't be playing the game," said Taylor after the Lions practised Wednesday at BC Place Stadium.

"As long as I'm respected by my peers and my peers know what I do, that's all I care about."

But, if you chat with his teammates and his coaches, Taylor's contributions to the Lions defence often don't get recognized or valued with a number.

"Defences are pieces of the puzzle. So he understands what his piece of the puzzle is and how he fits in that piece of the puzzle," said Lions' defensive co-ordinator Rich Stubler.

If Sunday's West semifinal between the Lions and the Saskatchewan Roughriders at Mosaic Stadium in Regina is a puzzle, then Taylor's fit is in the interior of B.C.'s defensive line, trying to help shut down star running back Kory Sheets.

Sheets finished the regular season second in the CFL with 1,598 rushing yards on 287 carries. He averaged 5.6 yards per carry, although he missed two games due to a knee injury.

The weather reports on Wednesday indicated temperatures for Sunday's playoff game will actually be colder than what was originally forecast on Tuesday.

Daytime highs could dip as low as -11 C. Cold enough for you?

So the emphasis on the run game for both teams should continue to mount. It's a good bet in Saskatchewan's case that Sheets will get plenty of touches.

The question now is: Can the Lions' defence, which was good against the run all season, stop Sheets, or is simply containing him the more realistic option?

"I think we can stop him," said Taylor.

"They've got a good passing game, but for us to win this game, we've got to stop the run."

MLS

Mattocks upsets Whitecaps with comments on TV

Vancouver Whitecaps striker Darren Mattocks had his say. Now club president Bob Lenarduzzi has given his rebuttal.

On Tuesday, Mattocks made several comments to Football GPS in Jamaica, criticizing former head coach Martin Rennie for the way he utilized the sophomore speedster, and claiming the Whitecaps refused him a move to England, as well as turning down an offer worth $1.2 million from another MLS team for Mattocks' services.

His remarks created a local firestorm for the Whitecaps on Wednesday.

"We certainly didn't hear any of that and are disappointed that he's chosen to go that route," said Lenarduzzi in a conference call.

Mattocks, the club's second overall pick in the 2012 MLS SuperDraft, scored three goals in 20 regular-season games this year. The year before, as a rookie, he scored a team-high seven goals.

His television diatribe took aim at Rennie, who was relieved of his head coaching duties last week, and the fact Mattocks was used primarily as a substitute.

"If (I) can be successful in my first season, and in my second season you try to jeopardize my career, I'm not naive and I'm not going to stay," said Mattocks.

"There was a team in MLS — I'm not going to name the team — offered $1.2 million for buying me from Vancouver and Vancouver turned it down."

Lenarduzzi said that final claim was "not true."

CAM TUCKER/METRO

NHL. Jets blown over by Hawks in the Windy City

Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane scored in the first period, leading the Chicago Blackhawks to a 4-1 victory over the Winnipeg Jets on Wednesday night.

The Blackhawks also got goals from Brandon Pirri and Patrick Sharp in their fourth win in five games.

Devin Setoguchi scored for Winnipeg.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Blackhawks' Brandon Bollig checks the Jets' Adam Pardy, knocking loose a pane of glass. GETTY IMAGES

Women's hockey

Canada edges U.S. early at 4 Nations

Natalie Spooner broke a tie on a 5-on-3 power play with 3:30 left and Canada beat the United States 4-2 on Wednesday night in the Four Nations Cup women's hockey tournament.

Brianne Jenner added an empty-net goal with 12 seconds to go and Haley Irwin and Melanie Daoust also scored for Canada.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA. Thompson leads Warriors past T-Wolves

Klay Thompson scored 19 of his 30 points in the fourth quarter and Harrison Barnes scored 14 points in his season debut to help the Golden State Warriors to a 106-93 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday night.

Stephen Curry had just five points on 2-for-8 shooting and sat out the fourth quarter with a bone bruise on his left foot.

"It just shows that we're not all about Steph," said Thompson, who hit five 3-pointers in the final quarter. "Steph's one of the best players in the NBA, but sometimes people think we rely on him too much. And it's not fair to him and we're a deep team this year."

Kevin Love had 25 points, 16 rebounds and six assists for the Timberwolves, who have lost two straight after a 3-0 start. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Do you feel good about yourself or do you feel guilty about some of the things you have done? If it's the latter, don't worry: fate is about to provide you with an opportunity to make amends. Take it.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
If you have something to say, say it now because after today it won't be so easy to find the right words. It does not matter if you are right or wrong, it matters only that you get your opinions out into the world.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Make an effort to talk to people about your dreams today. Don't be shy: Let them know what it is you desire most and how you intend to get it. If they are aware of your needs, they may be able to assist you.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
No matter how much you were looking forward to some down time over the next few days, the planets indicate you will have to put your social plans on hold for a while. It's your fault for leaving a task half-finished.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Be wary of someone who wants to know all about you. It could be they are being friendly but it could also be they are looking for information they can use against you.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You may think you have to adjust your long-term ambitions but from the look of your chart, you should let the current scenario work itself out.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Learn how to adapt because if you don't, you will be left behind. The world is changing by the day, the hour, the minute, and you must change with it. It's a matter of survival.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Is someone trying to confuse you or are you confusing yourself? From the look of your solar chart, it is most likely the latter. Get your head and then your act together! Life is simple when reduced to its essentials.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
The only way to resolve a disagreement is to refuse to argue about it. You should know by now that some people are so extreme in their views that they can never be reasoned with. Ignore them.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Jupiter, planet of good fortune, turns retrograde today but that does not mean your lucky streak is about to end. It does mean though that you need to take other people's feelings into account a bit more.

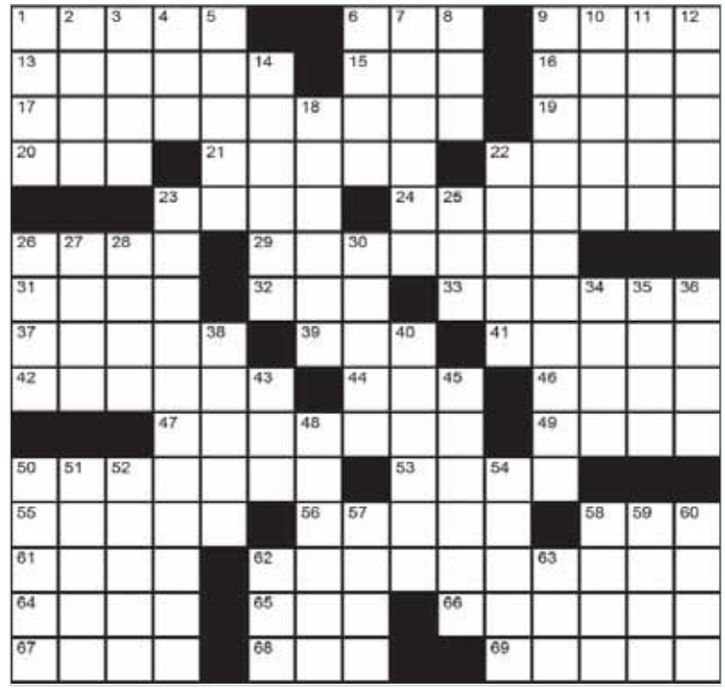
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You may feel sorry that a friend is having problems but is there anything practical you can do to help? If there is, do it. If there isn't, stay out of the way.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
A decision will have to be reviewed in the light of new information and, you must admit that you got it wrong. Mistakes are a fact of life. It's whether you learn from them that matters. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



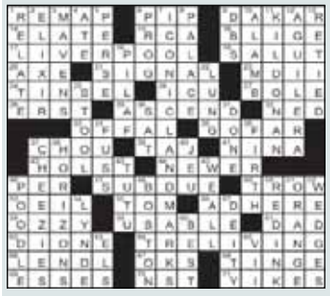
Across

1. Toronto's CFL team, commonly
6. Fall behind
9. Alphabet sequence
13. Internet: 2 wds.
15. 1954 Rosemary Clooney hit: "This __ House"
16. "I need _ __." (Dusting demand)
17. Springdale, Newfoundland born actress Natasha
19. Fun construction set
20. Roosted
21. Trumpet-playing Muppet
22. "The Six Million Dollar Man" character Mr. Goldman
23. Horn honk
24. Sky's streaks of light
26. "Good Times" disco group
29. Airport northwest of Montreal
31. Wood strip
32. Singer Ms. Sumac
33. One of classical music's 'Three Bs'
37. Saint __ Mountains (Range where Mount Vancouver is)
39. Author Ms. LeShan
41. Violinist Mr. Stern
42. PMO = Prime Minister's __
44. Suffix meaning 'Sort of'
46. "Howdy!": 2 wds.
47. Bar sing-a-long
49. Panache
50. Much-studied-a-subject expert
53. Some trees
55. Secret chest
56. Things over there
58. Mantric syllables
61. Pines
62. "Hockey Night in Canada", for one: 2 wds.
64. Potato __ (Sort of soup)
65. Furthermore
66. Serena Ryder hit
67. Water's whirl-ee
68. Research paper, e.g.
69. Ms. Spacek

Down

1. Olympics participants, for short
2. Ms. Perlman
3. Fine fellow
4. Famous talk show maven ...her initials-sharers
5. Ready, __, __!
6. City in Poland
7. Sault Ste. Marie: __ University
8. Barry Gibb, Bee __
9. Makeup kit items: 2 wds.
10. __-Roman wrestling
11. Rock singer Sammy who has fronted Van Halen
12. Mr. Stravinsky's
14. Like a floor-sweeping implement
18. Sooner or later: 2 wds.
22. SNL alum Cheri
23. 1892 ballet The Nutcracker composer, b.1840 - d.1893
25. Reflux
26. Mark Antony's love, for short
27. Fifty percent
28. "I can't help __ __..." (Excuse start)
30. Car's dashboard item
34. Salute
35. SNL alum Ms. Rudolph
36. Glance over
38. Reduce, __ back on
40. Request: 2 wds.
43. 'E' in BCE
45. Stickups
48. Lada Gaga's new album
50. Vogue concern
51. "With Arms Wide Open": 2000 hit for what band?
52. Perfected
54. Breaks
57. Laugh-a-minute
58. Electrical resistance units
59. Cleaning implements
60. Affect, as opinion
62. Bering, e.g.
63. "...or __ _ thought."

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

7	2	4	8	6	9	3	5	1
8	9	1	7	5	3	4	2	6
5	3	6	1	2	4	9	8	7
3	4	5	2	8	1	7	6	9
9	1	7	5	3	6	2	4	8
2	6	8	9	4	7	5	1	3
4	7	3	6	1	2	8	9	5
6	5	2	3	9	8	1	7	4
1	8	9	4	7	5	6	3	2

Today 9°/7° Showers 90%
Friday 9°/6° Partly sunny
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
TWN incorporates MSC data

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November 8-10, earn
7X the AIR MILES reward miles
on each item when total purchase is $120 or more. SKU: 991-811-981-0001
OR
5X the AIR MILES reward miles
on each item when total purchase is $80 or more. SKU: 991-811-980-0001[5]

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November 4 – December 8, earn
10X the AIR MILES reward miles
with Shell V-Power premium fuel.
OR
2X the AIR MILES reward miles
with Shell Bronze, Silver or Diesel fuel.[6] No coupon required![6] Min $30 fuel purchase per transaction.[6]

RONA

Until November 27, earn
3X the AIR MILES reward miles
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marlin travel

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250 BONUS AIR MILES reward miles
when you book a Transat Holidays or Nolitours sun vacation.[8]

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